The sketches and the design process in architecture.

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abstract ° full paper

This paper presents some of the results from the research project "The Sketches and the Design Process in Architecture" that was developed by the authors in 2004. The architectural sketch is seen as a fundamental artefact in the design process which is also capable of revealing some significant aspects of the context in which it was made. The research was based on the investigation of the ways in which architects see their own production of sketches in terms of influences, procedures, phases of elaboration, meanings, etc. The fundamental aim of the study was to contribute to architectural education by providing systematised information and interpretation of the production of sketches by a set of selected architects. The analysis also aimed to produce an interpretation of the role of the preliminary drawings and their influence on the designing of architectural solutions. The analysis of these elements also led to an interesting diversity of interpretations of the role of the sketch in architectural design.